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Part of a Memoir by the President was read, giving a history of the foundation of the Cape Observatory. Many years ago, on the death of Mr. Fallowes, his papers were forwarded to the Lords of the Admiralty, who made some ineffectual attempts to have them examined and published, if expedient. It is needless to allude here to the various difficulties which presented themselves; it will be sufficient to state, that Mr. Airy recently took charge of these manuscripts, and is now arranging and preparing them for press. Their lordships, with their accustomed liberality, have agreed to Mr. Airy's recommendation, viz. that Mr. Fallowes' observations should be published in the *Memoirs* of the Royal Astronomical Society, and at the expense of the Admiralty. Mr. Airy has availed himself of his position as custodier of the papers of the late Board of Longitude (which are now stored at the Royal Observatory) to furnish an exact history of this important institution.

As only a portion of this Paper was read, no further mention will be made of it in the present *Notice*. The work will probably be published in the quarto Volume for 1850, and will doubtless prove an important addition to those gratuitous contributions with which the Astronomer Royal has frequently enriched our science, while he has preserved the labours of astronomers deceased from neglect or even total oblivion.

METIS.

Observations.

HAMBURG. Meridian Circle. (M. C. Rümker.)

1849.	Hamb. M.T. h m s	R.A. ° ′ ″	Dec. ° ′ ″
Aug. 20	12 25 22·0	335 31 44·8	−20 21 52·8
25	12 0 52·9	334 19 9·0	20 51 4·5
30	11 36 21·5	333 6 0·0	21 16 45·2
Sep. 4	11 58·7	331 54 59·4	38 20·7
5	11 7 7·8	41 12·4	42 8·4
7	10 57 28·6	331 14 16·4	49 7·0
9	47 52·5	330 48 8·0	21 55 15·1
13	28 44·7	329 56 57·5	22 4 55·6
15	19 32·3	329 36 45·0	8 46·3
19	10 1 3·9	328 55 26·1	13 23·1
20	9 56 30·7	46 6·7	14 5·9
21	51 39·4	37 12·6	14 27·0
23	43 1·5	20 38·7	14 35·6
24	38 35·2	13 1·8	14 34·7
25	34 10·7	328 5 51·5	14 7·2
26	29 47·5	327 59 1·4	13 23·0
27	25 26·4	52 43·1	12 43·7
Oct. 1	9 8 20·3	327 32 1·3	−22 7 25·6

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LIVERPOOL. 8½-inch Achromatic. (Mr. Hartnup.)

1849.	Greenwich M.T. h	m	s	R.A. h	m	s	N.P.D. °	′	″	Comp^d—Obs^d. R.A. s	Comp^d—Obs^d. N.P.D. ″	Stars. B.A.C.
Sep. 22	10	1	16·0	21	53	53·88	112	14	36·3	−0·46	−14·7	7724
Oct. 14	8	27	57·4		49	2·71	111	30	30·6	−0·43	−18·0	7750, 7724
20	8	5	36·2		50	16·92	111	4	8·4	−0·17	−15·9	— —
21	8	1	58·8		50	35·70	110	59	14·2	−0·36	−15·7	— —
28	7	37	24·0	21	53	32·63	110	21	4·1	−0·36	−13·1	— —

"The places of the stars are taken from the Catalogue cited. The observed places are corrected for refraction and parallax. The computed places were deduced from Mr. Graham's Ephemeris, published in the *Monthly Notices*, vol. ix. No. 8."

Ephemeris at Greenwich Mean Midnight. By Mr. Graham.

1849.	R.A. h	m	s	N.P.D. °	′	″	1849.	R.A. h	m	s	N.P.D. °	′	″
Oct. 31	21	55	18·67	110	1	23·7	Dec. 1	22	24	1·81	105	54	48·5
Nov. 1		55	55·25	109	55	1·7	2		25	14·20		45	21·2
2		56	33·31		48	32·7	3		26	27·42		35	49·0
3		57	12·81		41	56·6	4		27	41·46		26	11·9
4		57	53·74		35	13·8	5		28	56·30		16	29·9
5		58	36·08		28	24·1	6		30	11·95	105	6	43·0
6	21	59	19·80		21	27·5	7		31	28·37	104	56	51·4
7	22	0	4·88		14	24·3	8		32	45·56		46	55·0
8		0	51·31	109	7	14·4	9		34	3·49		36	53·8
9		1	39·05	108	59	58·1	10		35	22·17		26	48·0
10		2	28·10		52	35·4	11		36	41·58		16	37·6
11		3	18·44		45	6·1	12		38	1·70	104	6	22·6
12		4	10·04		37	30·5	13		39	22·52	103	56	3·1
13		5	2·88		29	48·7	14		40	44·02		45	39·2
14		5	56·94		22	0·7	15		42	6·20		35	10·8
15		6	52·21		14	6·6	16		43	29·03		24	38·1
16		7	48·65	108	6	6·4	17		44	52·51		14	1·1
17		8	46·24	107	58	0·3	18		46	16·61	103	3	19·8
18		9	44·97		49	48·3	19		47	41·34	102	52	34·4
19		10	44·81		41	30·5	20		49	6·66		41	44·9
20		11	45·74		33	6·9	21		50	32·58		30	51·3
21		12	47·75		24	37·6	22		51	59·07		19	53·7
22		13	50·79		16	2·8	23		53	26·11	102	8	52·2
23		14	54·87	107	7	22·4	24		54	53·72	101	57	46·9
24		15	59·94	106	58	36·6	25		56	21·85		46	37·8
25		17	5·99		49	45·5	26		57	50·52		35	24·9
26		18	13·01		40	48·9	27	22	59	19·71		24	8·2
27		19	20·96		31	47·2	28	23	0	49·40		12	47·9
28		20	29·84		22	40·1	29		2	19·59	101	1	24·1
29		21	39·62		13	28·0	30		3	50·27	100	49	56·7
Nov. 30	22	22	50·28	106	4	10·8	Dec. 31	23	5	21·44	100	38	25·8

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Metis.

1850.	R.A.			N.P.D.		
	h	m	s	°	′	″
Jan. 1	23	6	53·08	100	26	51·4
2		8	25·18		15	13·6
3		9	57·75	100	3	32·4
4		11	30·76	99	51	47·9
5		13	4·23		40	0·1
6		14	38·14		28	9·1
7		16	12·48		16	14·8
8		17	47·26	99	4	17·4
9		19	22·44	98	52	17·0
10		20	58·06		40	13·5
11		22	34·08		28	7·0
12		24	10·51		15	57·6
13		25	47·31	98	3	45·4
14		27	24·52	97	51	30·4
15		29	2·10		39	12·7
16		30	40·05		26	52·4
17		32	18·38		14	29·5
18		33	57·06	97	2	4·0
19		35	36·10	96	49	36·1
20		37	15·48		37	5·9
21		38	55·20		24	33·3
22		40	35·26	96	11	58·6
23		42	15·66	95	59	21·6
24		43	56·37		46	42·5
25		45	37·38		34	1·4
26		47	18·70		21	18·3
27		49	0·32	95	8	33·3
28		50	42·22	94	55	46·4
29		52	24·44		42	57·6
30		54	6·99		30	7·1
31		55	49·87		17	14·9
Feb. 1		57	33·06	94	4	20·9
2	23	59	16·59	93	51	25·4
3	0	1	0·41		38	28·3
4		2	44·51		25	29·7
5		4	28·90	93	12	29·7
6		6	13·56	92	59	28·3
7		7	58·50		46	25·6
8		9	43·71		33	21·6
9		11	29·22		20	16·4
10		13	15·01	92	7	10·1
11		15	1·08	91	54	2·8
12		16	47·44		40	54·5
Feb. 13	0	18	34·07	91	27	45·4
Feb. 14	0	20	20·96	91	14	35·4
15		22	8·12	91	1	24·7
16		23	55·55	90	48	13·3
17		25	43·23		35	1·3
18		27	31·17		21	48·8
19		29	19·37	90	8	35·9
20		31	7·82	89	55	22·6
21		32	56·52		42	9·0
22		34	45·47		28	55·2
23		36	34·67		15	41·1
24		38	24·12	89	2	27·0
25		40	13·82	88	49	12·8
26		42	3·77		35	58·7
27		43	53·97		22	44·6
28		45	44·42	88	9	30·7
Mar. 1		47	35·12	87	56	17·0
2		49	26·08		43	3·5
3		51	17·29		29	50·3
4		53	8·75		16	37·6
5		55	0·47	87	3	25·3
6		56	52·44	86	50	13·5
7	0	58	44·67		37	2·3
8	1	0	37·15		23	51·7
9		2	29·89	86	10	41·9
10		4	22·88	85	57	32·8
11		6	16·12		44	24·6
12		8	9·62		31	17·4
13		10	3·37		18	11·2
14		11	57·37	85	5	6·1
15		13	51·61	84	52	2·1
16		15	46·11		38	59·4
17		17	40·85		25	58·1
18		19	35·85	84	12	58·2
19		21	31·09	83	59	59·7
20		23	26·58		47	2·8
21		25	22·30		34	7·6
22		27	18·28		21	14·0
23		29	14·49	83	8	22·3
24		31	10·95	82	55	32·4
25		33	7·66		42	44·4
26		35	4·61		29	58·3
27		37	1·81		17	14·4
28		38	59·26	82	4	32·5
Mar. 29	1	40	56·96	81	51	52·8

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1850.	R.A. h m s	N.P.D. ° ′ ″	1850.	R.A. h m s	N.P.D. ° ′ ″
Mar. 30	1 42 54·90	81 39 15·4	April 9	2 2 48·66	79 35 7·9
31	44 53·11	26 40·2	10	4 49·48	23 9·4
April 1	46 51·57	14 7·4	11	6 50·55	79 11 4·0
2	48 50·30	81 1 37·0	12	8 51·88	78 59 1·7
3	50 49·28	80 49 9·1	13	10 53·47	47 2·7
4	52 48·53	36 43·8	14	12 55·32	35 6·9
5	54 48·03	24 21·1	15	14 57·42	23 14·6
6	56 47·80	80 12 1·0	16	16 59·77	78 11 25·7
7	1 58 47·82	79 59 43·8	April 17	2 19 2·37	77 59 40·3
April 8	2 0 48·11	79 47 29·4			

1849.	Log. Δ	Hor. Par.	1849.	Log. Δ	Hor. Par.	1850.	Log. Δ	Hor. Par.
Oct. 31	0·26541	″	Dec. 2	0·34156	″	Jan. 3	0·40280	″
Nov. 1	·26793	4·63	3	·34372	3·89	4	·40444	3 38
2	·27045		4	·34587		5	·40606	
3	·27296		5	·34801		6	·40767	
4	·27547		6	·35013		7	·40926	
5	·27797	4·52	7	·35223	3·81	8	·41084	3·33
6	·28047		8	·35432		9	·41239	
7	·28295		9	·35639		10	·41394	
8	·28543		10	·35845		11	·41546	
9	·28790	4·42	11	·36049	3·74	12	·41697	3·28
10	·29036		12	·36251		13	·41846	
11	·29282		13	·36452		14	·41994	
12	·29526		14	·36651		15	·42140	
13	·29769	4·32	15	·36849	3·67	16	·42284	3·24
14	·30012		16	·37045		17	·42427	
15	·30253		17	·37239		18	·42568	
16	·30493		18	·37431		19	·42707	
17	·30732	4·23	19	·37622	3·61	20	·42845	3·20
18	·30970		20	·37811		21	·42981	
19	·31206		21	·37998		22	·43115	
20	·31442		22	·38184		23	·43248	
21	·31676	4·14	23	·38368	3·55	24	·43379	3·16
22	·31908		24	·38550		25	·43509	
23	·32139		25	·38730		26	·43637	
24	·32369		26	·38909		27	·43763	
25	·32598	4·05	27	·39086	3·49	28	·43888	3·12
26	·32825		28	·39262		29	·44012	
27	·33051		29	·39436		30	·44134	
28	·33275		30	·39608		31	·44254	
29	·33497	3·97	31	·39778	3·43	Feb. 1	·44373	3·09
30	·33718		1850. Jan. 1	·39947		2	·44490	
Dec. 1	0·33938		2	0·40114		3	0·44606	

	Log. Δ	Hor. Par.	1849.	Log. Δ	Hor. Par.	1850.	Log. Δ	Hor. Par.
		″			″			″
Feb. 4	0·44720		Mar. 1	·47098	2·90	Mar. 26	·48617	
5	·44833	3·06	2	·47174		27	·48661	
6	·44944		3	·47249		28	·48704	
7	·45054		4	·47324		29	·48746	2·79
8	·45163		5	·47396	2·88	30	·48786	
9	·45269	3·02	6	·47468		31	·48826	
10	·45374		7	·47538		April 1	·48864	
11	·45478		8	·47606		2	·48901	2·78
12	·45581		9	·47674	2·86	3	·48937	
13	·45682	3·00	10	·47740		4	·48971	
14	·45781		11	·47804		5	·49005	
15	·45879		12	·47867		6	·49037	2·77
16	·45975		13	·47929	2·85	7	·49068	
17	·46070	2·97	14	·47990		8	·49098	
18	·46163		15	·48049		9	·49126	
19	·46256		16	·48107		10	·49154	2·77
20	·46346		17	·48164	2·83	11	·49180	
21	·46435	2·94	18	·48220		12	·49205	
22	·46523		19	·48274		13	·49229	
23	·46609		20	·48327		14	·47251	2·76
24	·46694		21	·48379	2·82	15	·49273	
25	·46778	2·92	22	·48429		16	·49293	
26	·46859		23	·48478		April 17	·49312	
27	.46940		24	·48525				
Feb. 28	0·47020		Mar. 25	0·48572	2·80			

"The ellipse is still assumed to be invariable. The calculated places have been corrected for observation, and they are referred to the apparent equinox.

"This ephemeris will enable observers to follow the planet as long as there is the smallest chance of seeing it."

Observed Diameters of Venus.

Liverpool. 20-foot Equatoreal. (Mr. Lassell.)

1849, March 16·24	″ 28·675 29·130 28·753 28·995 28·775	Mean 28″·866.

Aperture contracted to 20 inches, parallel wire-micrometer by Merz; magnifying power, 366.

"The observations were taken in daylight in order to avoid any error from irradiation, and also that the planet might be seen as near the meridian as practicable.

"Air very tremulous, though not more so than is usual under such circumstances. The edge of *Venus*, however, was sharp between the vibrations. The cusps equal in sharpness. No well-ascertained spots or markings visible."

1849, March 21·216	″ 30·619 30·748 30·431 30·721 30·425	Mean 30″·589.

Measures taken with somewhat more difficulty than on the 16th; same power and aperture.

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